

stop in Brazil, stated that Helms-Burton has had a very strong psychological effect and has frustrated investments. He added that the Cuban economy has not grown as expected in large part due to this legislation.

But whether or not Castro's thugs agree that Helms-Burton has been successful or not, it is clear that this legislation has stopped in its tracks Castro's efforts to sell Cuba as an investment paradise, a paradise where workers who enjoy no rights are virtual slaves to the wicked partnership of Castro and the foreign investors who profit from American stolen property.

All of this, Mr. Speaker, has taken place despite the failure of the Clinton administration to fully implement the law. The President has ignored congressional intent and has twice waived title III of Helms-Burton. This is the provision that grants American citizens the right to sue in American courts those foreign investors who traffic in their stolen American property in Cuba.

Similarly, title IV of the legislation that denies entry to the United States of those officials of corporations that are investing in illegally confiscated American property in Cuba, has only been enforced against two corporations: Sherritt of Canada and Grupo Doms of Mexico, despite evidence that other companies like Spain's hotel builders, Sol-Melia, are doing business with United States confiscated properties.

The Castro regime's desperation to silence any support for Helms-Burton inside the island was translated a few months ago into an antidote law that virtually prohibits any positive talk of Helms-Burton on the island.

Articles 8 and 9 of this totalitarian law makes it a crime for any Cuban citizen to facilitate the implementation of Helms-Burton. The main victims but not the only victims of this new oppressive law have been the independent journalists on the island who bravely attempt to offer the people of Cuba and the outside world an objective view of the repressive situation on the island.

Raul Rivero, who presides over Cuba Press, an independent journalist association in Cuba, and many other colleagues who bravely attempt to break Castro's information monopoly, have been systematically harassed and arrested by Castro's thugs since this draconian law took effect.

These journalists are subject to so-called repudiation acts, which are government sponsored mobs, which in the middle of the night scream insults such as "traitor," and in fact they vandalize these reporters' homes.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, many of our allies have followed Castro's lead. They have mounted a campaign of their own to revoke Helms-Burton in order to be able to continue to profit and participate in Castro's slave economy.

Mr. Speaker, only by denying Castro the resources he needs to maintain

power can we help the people of Cuba in their struggle to eliminate the last dictator of our hemisphere, Fidel Castro.

BRAVERY AND VALOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. LAMPSON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, bravery and valor are qualities we do not hear much about anymore. Recently though, Galveston County, TX, was the site for two notable displays of those qualities, and their heroes deserve our praise.

Mr. Speaker, my sister is a quadriplegic. I cannot think of anything more frightening than her being caught in a fire. That is the tragedy that befell a man in Santa Fe, TX, last week. As he slept, his home caught fire. Officers were dispatched to the scene. When Sgt. Lee Stephenson and Officers Carl Nunn and David Thomas arrived, they were told by neighbors that the occupant was wheelchair-bound. Unable to get through either door due to the flames and smoke, the officers broke through a bedroom window, located the man and carried him to safety.

Every day, men and women who have devoted their lives to protecting our communities put themselves at risk. We should honor them every day, and I am pleased to tell their story. Before this U.S. House of Representatives, I recognize and I salute the bravery and valor displayed by Santa Fe police officers Lee Stephenson, Carl Nunn, and David Thomas. I also wish to recognize the efforts of the Santa Fe Volunteer Fire Department for their hard work and dedicated public service.

An even scarier situation emerged last month in Galveston County when a man driving with his two toddler daughters in the car had a seizure while approaching the Galveston Bay Causeway on Interstate 45. The car flew off the highway and fell 15 feet into the water, landing fortunately at a shallow point.

Five young people were following a few hundred yards behind. They saw the tragedy unfold, pulled over and rushed into the water to help. They pulled the two little girls and their father to safety so they could receive medical attention. Before this House of Representatives, I recognize and I salute the bravery and valor displayed by Mark Kneip of Texas City, TX, and Shawn Cook, Katherine Holmes, Paul Holmes, and Evelyn Urban, all of Dickinson, TX.

I am understandably proud to come before this body and tell the American people these stories of heroism from my district.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleagues and the charitable interests who organized last weekend's bipartisan retreat.

□ 1730

As a new Member of this body, I appreciated the opportunity to discuss

the operation of the people's House without regard to party affiliation or seniority.

I and most of my freshmen colleagues recognize that we were elected in part as a response to the marked partisanship of the previous Congress. This weekend was a giant leap forward toward a more collegial and, therefore, more productive House of Representatives.

MARGIE JANOVICH'S SACRIFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. CHRISTENSEN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, today in Omaha, NE, we had a funeral for a young lady that has meant a lot to me over the last 2 years. Her name was Margie Janovich. Margie was an inspiration, I think, not only to Omaha, but after people hear about her story, will be an inspiration to every family in this country.

Margie was diagnosed about 2 years ago with thyroid cancer, and she was 5 months pregnant at the time she was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. She was a strong, committed believer of the right of the unborn child. Margie felt compelled to forego the treatments on her thyroid and to forego the chemotherapy until her baby was born 4 months later.

Margie already had 8 children: Nick, 21; Tina, 19; Terri, 17; Jim, 16; Mike, 12; Joe, 9; Dan, 7 years old; and Andy, 3. So they had a wonderful family and Margie thought that she could not bring herself to endanger her unborn child. So she forewent the chemotherapy and delivered little baby Mary safely.

During those 4 months that she decided not to go through treatments, the cancer spread. It spread to her lungs and it spread on into the rest of her body. For the last 20 months Margie has fought cancer, and it took her life Sunday night and we buried her today.

During those last 20 months, I have had an opportunity to spend a lot of time with her. I have gone over to her house several times, had pizza delivered a couple of times, and every time I was over there Margie always had the greatest attitude. She never once was concerned about her own self. It was, how are you doing, what is going on in Congress, are you going to get that partial birth abortion bill through this year. She was very, very, very sick, but she always was concerned about other people.

During the last 20 months she home schooled three of her children. Neighbors surrounded them, took a lot of food over and tried to help out however they could. Ron was always there, a tremendous husband. But this is a story about the quality of life and the respect for life for this little child, Mary Beth Janovich.